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potassium phosphate, sodium chloride, ~~lithium chloride~~, ammonium acetate, sodium acetate, magnesium chloride, sodium formate and sodium citrate.--

REMARKS

The Official Action dated December 6, 2000 has been carefully considered. By the present Amendment, claims 11-21 have been cancelled and claims 31-41 have been added. Claims 31-41 directly or indirectly depend from claim 1 and include limitations from claims 11-21, respectively. Claim 36 also contains limitations from the specification at page 4, lines 1-3. Finally, claim 30 is amended to change its dependency from cancelled claim 12 to claim 32. Since these changes do not involve any introduction of new matter, entry is believed to be in order and is respectfully requested.

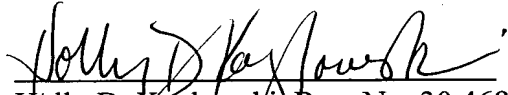
In the Official Action, the Examiner required restriction under 35 U.S.C. §121 between claims 1-10 drawn to a cytokine receptor protein, claims 11-21 and 26-30 drawn to crystals of receptor proteins and methods of obtaining cytokine receptor crystals, and claims 22-25 drawn to methods of designing drugs.

Applicants hereby elect the invention of claims 1-10 drawn to a cytokine receptor protein. This election is made with traverse on the basis that it would not be unduly burdensome for the Examiner to examine claims 11-21 and 26-30 together with elected claims 1-10. However, to facilitate prosecution on the merits, claims 11-21 have been cancelled and claims 31-41 are added, which claims are also directed to cytokine receptor protein as defined in claim 1. It is therefore submitted that at least claims 1-10 and 31-41 should be examined in this application. Reconsideration of the restriction requirement is therefore respectfully requested.

The Examiner also required Applicants to elect under 35 U.S.C. §121 a single disclosed specific molecular embodiment with identified precise amino acid sequence for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Applicants hereby elect the species of modified human growth hormone receptor (hGHR) which consists of the amino acids 32-237 of the native molecule. It is believed that all of claims 1-10 and 31-41 are generic to this elected species.

It is believed that the above represents a complete response to the restriction and election requirements under 35 U.S.C. §121. Further examination of claims 1-10 and 31-41 on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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